

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Device A device for guiding a cerclage about around a bone, comprising: A) (a) a longitudinal shaft (6), which can be capable of being placed in contact with a bone (2), with, said shaft comprising a central axis (7), a front end (11) and a central borehole (8), which is open wherein, at the front end (11) of the shaft, the central borehole is angled so that the central axis of the borehole forms an angle to the central axis of the shaft (6), with a central axis (15) and~~
~~B) (b) an axially displaceable, longitudinally bendable flexible guide wire (5), which can be said guide wire comprising a front end capable of being extended out of the central borehole at the front end (11) of the shaft (6) from the central borehole (8)~~
characterized in that
~~C) the central borehole (8), at the front end (11) of the shaft (6), has a central axis (15), which is angled with respect to the central axis (7) of the shaft (6), so that at the front end of the shaft the guide wire (5) at the front end (11) of the shaft (6) is angled with respect to the central axis (7) of the shaft (6).~~
2. (Currently amended) The device of claim 1, characterized in that, at the front end (11) of the shaft (6), the central axis (15) of the central borehole (8) encloses an angle α of between 1° and 90° with the central axis (7) of the shaft (6), wherein α is from about 1° to about 90° .
3. (Currently amended) ~~Device of claims 1 or 2~~ The device of claim 1, characterized in that the guide wire (5) can be is capable of being deformed elastically.
4. (Currently amended) ~~The device of one of the claims 1 to 3~~ The device of claim 1, characterized in that it includes, further comprising a head piece at the front of the guide wire (5), a head piece (17), which has, said head piece comprising a borehole (23) with several comprising a plurality of constrictions (24; 26), wherein the diameters of the borehole (23) and of the constrictions (24; 26) being are such that different cerclage wires or cables (25) can be pressed introduced into the borehole (23) or into one or more of the constrictions (24; 26).
5. (Currently amended) The device of claim 4, characterized in that, further comprising a transverse borehole in the head piece (17), a transverse borehole (27) is additionally provided, which passes, said transverse borehole passing through the head piece (17) between the borehole (23) and an exterior wall of the head piece (17), so that a cerclage wire or cable (25) can be passed in a loop through the borehole (23) and the transverse borehole (27).
6. (Currently amended) The device of ~~1 of the claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the guide wire (5) is drilled coaxially.
7. (Currently amended) ~~The device of one of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the shaft 6 includes two shaft segments, a front shaft segment [[3]] and a rear shaft segment [[4]] and that the two front and rear shaft segments [[3; 4]] may be telescoped parallel to the central axis [[7]] and relative to one another, so that the guide wire [[5]] can be

extended at the front end [[11]] of the shaft [[6]] by retracting the one shaft segment [[3; 4]] into the other shaft segment [[3;4]].

8. (Currently amended) The device of ~~one of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the guide wire (5) can be extended from the front end (11) of the shaft (6) by means of a sliding element (9), which sliding element can be shifted coaxially with the central axis (7) of the shaft (6).

9. (Currently amended) The device of ~~one of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the guide wire (5) may be extended at the front end (11) of the shaft (6) by means of a rack mechanism (16).

10. (Currently amended) The device of ~~one the claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that the shaft (6) is angled or bent at its front end (11), so that the central axis (7b), at the front end (11) of the shaft (6), encloses an angle β with the central axis (7a) ~~on~~ of the remaining length of the shaft (6).

11. (Currently amended) The device of claim 10, characterized in that the angle β is between about 1° and about 90°.

12. (New) The device of claim 5, characterized in that the guide wire is drilled coaxially.

13. (New) The device of claim 6, characterized in that the shaft includes two shaft segments, a front shaft segment and a rear shaft segment and that the front and rear shaft segments may be telescoped parallel to the central axis and relative to one another, so that the guide wire can be extended at the front end of the shaft by retracting one shaft segment into other shaft segment.

14. (New) The device of claim 6, characterized in that the guide wire can be extended from the front end of the shaft by means of a sliding element, which sliding element can be shifted coaxially with the central axis of the shaft.

15. (New) The device of claim 6, characterized in that the guide wire may be extended at the front end of the shaft by means of a rack mechanism.

16. (Currently amended) The device of claim 9, characterized in that the shaft is angled at its front end, so that the central axis, at the front end of the shaft, encloses an angle β with the central axis of the remaining length of the shaft.